(d) the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement showing the details of the proposal is annexed *(See Appendix 185, Annexure No. 9).*

(c) and (d) The Tariff Authority has accepted the proposal for consideration and it is being processed in accordance with the prescribed procedures.

Improvement of National Highway-53

292. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state;

(a) the amount of fund released for the improvement of National Highway-53 in the area of Manipur for the year 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(b) whether a new National Highway via Manipur and Mizoram is contemplated during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, when it will be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Fund released for improvement of National Highway-53 in Manipur:

(i) 1997-98 — Rs. 10.70 crore

(ii) 1998-99 — Rs. 12.30 crore

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Work will be started after Gazette notification of new national highway, which is yet to be done.

Expansion of Mumbai-Ahmedabad-Baroda Highway

293. SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on Mumbai-Ahmedabad-Baroda Express Highway which was contracted to M/s Continental Constructions Company in April 1986 is going to be undertaken soon ;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) Whether it is a fact that the company has demanded more funds;

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(e) whether Government propose to make the Highway into 4 lanes instead of 2 lanes in view of the huge traffic on the route; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The balance work of Ahmedabad-Vadodara Expressway would be executed in two phases by the National Highways Authority of India as per details given below:

(i) Phase I Ahmedabad to Nadiad (Km 0/0 to Km 43.4) and

(ii) Phase II Nadiad to Vadodara (Km. 43.4 to Km 93.302).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. However, the demand was not accepted by the Government.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The proposals for pre-qualification of contractors for the phase-I works have been invited by NHAI.

माफिया द्वारा बस मालिकों से अवैध रूप से धन लिया जाना

294. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव:**
प्रो॰ रामगोपाल यादव:

क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को यह जानकारी है कि गाजियाबाद से दिल्ली, नोएडा और ए एल टी और जो अन्य बसें चलती हैं उनसे बस माफिया जबरन दिल्ली पुलिस, परिवहन विभाग दिल्ली, गाजियाबाद पुलिस और परिवहन विभाग को नजराना देने के नाम पर 15 लाख

से अधिक रुपये की प्रतिमाह उगाही करते हैं, इसके फलस्वरूप बस मालिक परेशान होकर बसें बन्द करने पर विचार कर रहे हैं?

(ख) क्या केन्द्र सरकार दिल्ली और उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को इस वसूली को तत्काल प्रभाव से रोकने एवं माफियाओं पर सख्त कार्रवाही करने के लिए निर्देश जारी करेगी; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार क्या कार्यवाही करेगी और कब तक?

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा॰ देवेन्द्र प्रधान): (क) सरकार को ऐसी किसी घटना की जानकारी नहीं है।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Improving of road infrastructure in Andhra Pradesh

295. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for grant for road widening works on National Highways and for improving road infrastructure in the State;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A sum of Rs. 40 crore has been made available to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for develolpment of National Highways during 1988-1999.

Diversion of Certain posts from the office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms to the Head-Quarters

296. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO:
SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some posts sanctioned for field units of the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms were transferred along with incumbents to Head Quarters Office and subsequently absorbed, against provisions of prescribed Recruitment Rules;

(b) whether such action has not deprived field units of their sanctioned strength;

(c) whether timely action has not been taken to have vacancies at Head Quarters office filled; and

(d) if so, the remedial action proposed to do justice to the weavers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) The transfer of posts alongwith the incumbents has been done but it does not attract provisions of Recruitments Rules. Therefore, the question of these transfers being against provisions of prescribed Recruitment Rules does not arise.

(b) Allocation of posts in field units is being made from time to time as per requirement.

(c) Filling up of the vacancies at Headquarters office is a continuous process and the vacancies are being filled up from time to time in accordance with the Recruitment Rules.

(d) The posts were transferred from field units for coordinating the work of field units. Thus, no remedial action is required.

वस्त्र उद्योग में आर्थिक मंदी

297. **श्री सरोज दुबे:** क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने कपड़ा मार्किट में आर्थिक मंदी और उससे उत्पन्न अनिश्चिता की समीक्षा की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस मंदी को दूर करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए गए है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं?

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री काशीराम राणा): (क) से (ग) सरकार वस्त्र उद्योग के विकास पर कड़ी निगरानी